

**Developmental Disabilities Council  
Consumer Caucus Meeting Minutes  
November 18, 2017  
Ches Del Restaurant, Port Penn, DE  
9:30 a.m.**

**Members Present:** Joseph Merritt, Jr., Lillian Gibbons, Reese Eskridge, Karen Gallagher

**Members Absent:** Alvin Emory, Jr., Derrick George, Laura Greene

**Staff:** Stefanie Lancaster, Emmanuel Jenkins

**Guests:** Carmen (Karen's attendant), Sheena Scott (Emmanuel's attendant)

- I. Introduction of Members** – All members present introduced themselves.
- II. Approval of Agenda** – Stefanie requested to move the item listed under VII relating the FOIA discussion to the next meeting. With that change, the agenda was approved.
- III. Approval of Minutes** – Joseph Merritt made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Karen Gallagher seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
- IV. Legislative Update** – A copy of the Legislative Agenda was provided to all members present. The committee reviewed the document. It was stated that with any of the agenda items that are moved forward in the upcoming Legislative session that any Council member's testimony helps to support the need to make these items law.
- V. Self-Advocacy Organization update** – Joey stated that there are no changes in the Delaware People First organization. They are currently planning their holiday gathering. Stefanie Lancaster provided an update from the current Self Advocacy contractor that the DDC has who is the Asperger's Alliance group. A flyer was shared describing their organization as well as the update that was provided at the Council meeting.
- VI. Revision of Bylaws** – A document was shared that clearly stated the process that was decided upon on the November Council meeting on how the revision of the bylaws process will go. All members were asked to share their thoughts and opinions on items they want to see added into the bylaws with the Council Chairperson or any DDC staff member.

- VII. FOIA Obligations of State Boards and Councils –**  
This will be discussed at the next full Council meeting scheduled in January and will be reviewed at the January Consumer Caucus meeting.
- VIII. MOU between DDC and Department of Safety and Homeland Security –**  
It was discussed at the November Council meeting that the DDC staff research what other DD Council's MOU documents appear to consist of. The information that was found has been shared with Victoria Coughlin, the Deputy Attorney General for the DD Council as well as with Secretary Coupe. This topic will be discussed in further depth at the January Council meeting.
- IX. Other Business -** Due to the timing of when member, Karen Gallagher, is able to get to this meeting, it was suggested that the meeting time be pushed back to 10 a.m. so that she is able to arrive to the meeting on time. It was also discussed that the committee would like to begin meeting every two months versus the three months that they have been meeting. They felt it was too long of time in between meetings. This was approved by all members present.
- X. Adjournment -** The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m. The next meeting date will be held on Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to noon at ChesDel Restaurant.